

Message Text

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54

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 CU-04 SS-15 CPR-01 NSC-05 /038 W

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R 151245Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO USIA WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4051

UNCLAS JIDDA 1918

USIAC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, OGEN, SA

SUBJECT: U.S. BICENTENNIAL OBSERVANCE SAUDI ARABIA

1. AMBASSADOR HAS RECOMMENDED THAT ONE OF PRINCIPAL INGREDIENTS OBSERVANCE U.S. BICENTENNIAL IN SAUDI ARABIA WOULD BE TELEVISED PERSONAL MESSAGE "ON THE OCCASION OF OUR BICENTENNIAL" FROM PRESIDENT FORD TO HM KING KHALID AND THE PEOPLE OF SAUDI ARABIA.

2. REQUEST YOU CHECK WITH WHITE HOUSE TO SEE IF PRESIDENT WILLING TO DO THIS, TO BE TAPED BY IMV. IF IDEA ACCEPTABLE, EMBASSY WILL THEN PROPOSE TEXT FOR HIS APPROVAL. MESSAGE COULD BE TAPED ANY TIME AND WOULD BE HELD HERE FOR PLACEMENT JULY FOURTH.

3. THE AMBASSADOR ENVISAGED THE GREETINGS BETWEEN CHIEFS OF STATE AS A FINAL AND CULMINATING FEATURE OF A PROGRAM -- THAT SHOULD RUN APPROXIMATELY FIFTEEN MINUTES -- ON UNITED STATES-SAUDI RELATIONS. COULD SUCH A PROGRAM BE ASSEMBLED FROM USG FILM AND TV LIBRARIES OR OTHER SELECTIONS TO WHICH THE USG COULD HAVE ACCESS? AMONG THE ASPECTS OF U.S.-SAUDI RELATIONS THAT SUCH A PROGRAM COULD COVER COULD BE FDR-ABDUL AZIZ MEETING IN 1945, PLUS HEAVY COVERAGE OF KING FAISAL (AS SAUDI ARABIA'S DELEGATE TO THE UNITED NATIONS, AND UNCLASSIFIED

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DURING HIS SEVERAL MEETINGS THROUGH THE UNITED

STATES), PLUS FOOTAGE ON SAUDI STUDENTS IN U.S.

4. SUCH A PROGRAM WE THINK WOULD BE A POPULAR
PLACEMENT ON SAUDI TELEVISION, REGARDLESS OF
WHETHER AN EXCHANGE OF GREETINGS BETWEEN CHIEFS
OF STATE CAN BE ARRANGED (AND WE BELIEVE THE SAG
WOULD GO ALONG WITH SUCH A SUGGESTION).

5. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR REACTION AND SUGGESTIONS FOR
APPROVAL AMBASSADOR.
JONES

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
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